be taught in the first instance have been identified. Government of Orissa has identified the land for setting up the IIIT.

In view of the large investments involved and the need to provide well defined directions in the establishment of IIITs' Department of Electronics has invited views from a cross-section of people engaged in the areas of academics, implementation and applications of Informatics and related disciplines regarding the objectives, scope, logistics and administration of these institutions. Their views are presently being examined. In order to develop a convergent perspective of the goals of these institutions, Department of Electronics proposes to shortly hold a workshop where different aspects relating to the setting up of the Institutes will be discussed. Further course of action will be decided after the above workshop, as views have been expressed by some important persons consulted that it would be more economical to introduce the courses meant for IIITs in existing institutions like IIT's Regional Engineering Colleges and Universities rather than starting new institutions from scratch.

Purchase of INS 'Viraat'

4357. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the year in which INS-Viraat was purchased ;

(b) what was the cost involved;

(c) whether the experts visited other countries to inspect various war ship available before bringing the INS-Viraat; and

(d) what are the details of the agreement regarding purchase of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The Sales Agreement for the purchase of INS-Viraat was signed on the 19th April, 1986.

(b) The revised cost is approximately £66 million.

(c) and (d) The INS-Viraat was selected as it had the facility for operating the Sea-Harrier aircraft and the Sea King helicopters which were and continue to be in operation with the Indian Navy. It was, therefore, not considered necessary to have Naval experts visit other countries for inspection of other ships. Further details cannot be divulged in the interest of national security.

Production cost of Heavy Water

4358. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the high cost of heavy water produced in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that this makes nuclear power uneconomical; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to reduce the cost of production of heavy water ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN):(a) to (c) The cost of production of Heavy Water depends on the total production achieved and on the unit cost of inputs such as power, Natural gas/Naphta, wages etc. which